

Commentaries on Jazz Musicians and Jazz Songs: A History of Jazz in Retrospect

Benjamin V. Franklin

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Benjamin V. Franklin : Commentaries on Jazz Musicians and Jazz Songs: A History of Jazz in Retrospect before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Commentaries on Jazz Musicians and Jazz Songs: A History of Jazz in Retrospect:

This book details the music played on the Jazz in Retrospect program. It includes the name of every leader, identifies all musical selections, and provides recording dates. Because no tapes of the show have been preserved, the book provides invaluable documentation for jazz and radio history. Broadcasted on Public Radio from the late 1970s until 1992, "Jazz in Retrospect" was a weekly half-hour program that focused on one topic per show. Each program was a lesson with musical examples. For example, shows illustrated that musicians composed tunes based on the chord sequence of George Gershwin's "I Got Rhythm", that jazz was recorded in Norway during Nazi occupation, that the Village Vanguard was a venue for numerous live recordings, that the bass saxophone has been used in modern jazz, that band leaders occasionally recorded as sidemen, that Verve Records incorrectly identified where some of its music was recorded, that Paris embraced bebop in the late 1940s, that Charlie Parker played at Birdland, and so forth.

"[The author's] experienced scholarship makes this work an important addition to the jazz oeuvre." (Prof. Hazen

Schumacher University of Michigan) "The enormous amount of information contained within [this book] cannot be found in any other single place, thereby presenting an invaluable resource for the jazz aficionado or neophyte." (Prof. Harry Skoler Berklee College of Music)"